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- (1) the slant grooves comprise steeply slant grooves extending at a relatively small inclination angle with respect to the circumferential direction and gently slant grooves extending at a relatively large inclination angle with respect to the circumferential direction;
  - (2) the steeply slant grooves are opened to the circumferential center groove in the central zone of the tread, while the gently slant grooves are opened to a tread end in each of said side zones of the tread to form blocks in said side zones;
  - (3) the number of the gently slant grooves is made two or more times than the number of the steeply slant grooves so that an interval between the gently slant grooves in the circumferential direction is made  $\frac{1}{2}$  or less than an interval between the steeply slant grooves in the circumferential direction;
  - (4) each of the blocks is provided with at least one sipe; and
  - (5) blocks formed in the central zone are defined by the circumferential center groove and the steeply slant grooves and are chamfered from a tapered top end over a range of 10-30 mm in a longitudinal direction of the block so as to gradually shallow a depth of a surface of the block from the tapered top end toward an opposite end [a longitudinal direction] of the block [so as to gradually shallow a depth of a surface of the block from the tapered top end in the longitudinal direction].
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8. (Twice Amended) A pneumatic radial tire according to claim 1, wherein an inclination direction of a side of [the] a block formed in the central zone is different than an inclination direction of a side of a block formed in the side zone of the tread.